



SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

SUPERVISION STRATEGIES
IMPLEMENTATION: JANUARY 2006

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
PROBATION, PAROLE AND PARDON SERVICES

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services is charged with the responsibility of supervising all adult criminal offenders sentenced to probation by the Court of General Sessions. In addition, the Department is responsible for providing supervision to those offenders who have been released to the community by the Parole Board or through other release mechanisms. With these responsibilities, the formal mission of the Department is to:

Prepare offenders under our supervision toward becoming productive members of the community;

Provide assistance to the victims of crimes, the Courts and the Parole Board; and

Protect public trust and safety.

In South Carolina there are over 7,000 offenders required to register as sex offenders. The Department supervises over 1,300 of these offenders. In order to fulfill our mission with this population, in January 2006 we will begin using a nationally recognized supervision strategy. This strategy, called the "Containment Approach" consists of three elements. First, it employs the use of external control, that is, the criminal justice system provides external control through close contact with the sex offender's treatment provider. The second element of the containment approach is to facilitate internal control through treatment. The offender is taught to achieve personal control of his or her inappropriate sexual impulses, feelings, and behaviors through offense specific treatment which uses a variety of psycho-educational and behavioral modification techniques. This must be achieved by a skilled treatment provider. The third and final element of this approach is the use of polygraph examinations. This allows for confirmation of what the offender self-reports to the treatment provider. The primary use of the polygraph will be to obtain a full disclosure of the offender's sexual history. It may then be used periodically by the treatment provider for verification of behavior.

In addition to the above supervision strategy, the Department is establishing a higher supervision level and using a sex offender-specific risk assessment to determine the level of supervision for each offender. Finally, the Department intends to use electronic monitoring in conjunction with traditional community supervision methods for those offenders deemed to be the highest risk of re-offending.

It is our goal to keep the citizens of South Carolina safe through holding sex offenders accountable and addressing the many needs of this population. It is in everyone's interest that the offender succeed under supervision.

Thank you for your assistance and support.

Samuel B. Glover



STANDARD SEX OFFENDER CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

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1. I will register as a sex offender as required by the Code of Laws of South Carolina and as described in the Department's *Notice of Sex Offender Registry*.
2. I will attend, actively participate in, not give cause to be terminated from, and successfully complete any counseling/treatment program, to which I am referred by my agent, which may include polygraph or other treatment related testing, all at my own expense. I waive all rights to confidentiality between myself and my treatment provider, and authorize my treatment provider to disclose to my agent, the Court, the Parole Board, the releasing authority, and/or the hearing officer, information about my attendance and participation in the program. (Must complete Referral Form 1054).
3. I will not have any contact with the victim(s) of my crime, directly or indirectly. This includes but is not limited to physical or face to face contact, contact through letters or written notes, telephone calls, or electronic mail (email), or any contact through a third party, unless such contact is approved in writing by the Court, the Parole Board, or the releasing authority, or the hearing officer. I also will not enter into, travel past, or loiter near a victim 's residence or workplace.
4. I will not have any contact with a person under the age of 18, with the exception of my immediate family members and then may only have such contact if approved in advance under conditions set by my treatment provider and my agent. If I have incidental contact with any child, I will be civil and courteous and immediately remove myself from the situation. I will discuss the contact at my next treatment session and will immediately report this contact to my agent.
5. I will not enter into, loiter or work within one thousand (1,000) feet of any area or event frequented by people under the age of 18 including but not limited to: schools, day care centers, playgrounds, arcades, public swimming pools or beaches, shopping malls, theaters, or and festivals, unless approved in advance by my agent.
6. I will not purchase, possess, or use any sexually stimulating or sexually explicit material or device, nor enter into, loiter or work within one thousand (1,000) feet of any place where such material or device is sold or presented as entertainment. This includes but is not limited to adult book stores, sexually explicit internet sites, television services, or telephone services, sex shops, topless bars, strip clubs, and massage parlors. I will not possess or use a computer or any other electronic device which is enabled with internet access for any reason unless approved in advance under conditions set by my treatment provider and my agent. I understand this means that without prior approval, there may not be a computer of any type in my residence, and that I may not access any computer. If approved to use a computer I must sign the Computer Use Agreement for Sex Offenders (Form 1402). If my employer requires me to use a computer, I will provide a written statement from my employer stating the need for such use.
7. I will permit my agent or a representative of the Department, without a warrant and with or without the assistance of any other law enforcement officer, to search my person, residence, any vehicle I own or have permission to use, and any of my possessions, for the presence of sexually stimulating or sexually explicit materials or devices prohibited by these conditions, and to seize said materials. Such materials seized shall be considered property of the court, Parole Board, or releasing authority, and shall be safely kept by the Department or other law enforcement agency until any violations concerning the seized materials have been addressed.
8. I will abide by all curfews as directed by my agent.
9. I will at all times maintain a suitable residence, approved by my agent, which complies with all conditions of my supervision, which may not be within one thousand (1000) feet of any area frequented by people under the age of 18, including but not limited to schools, day care centers, playgrounds, arcades, public swimming pools or beaches, shopping malls, or theaters. I will obtain approval from my agent of my residence and employment and shall obtain prior approval from my agent before changing my residence or employment. I will stay at my approved residence every night and will not sleep or stay overnight anywhere else without prior approval of my agent.
10. I will not consume alcoholic beverages and will submit to alcohol testing as instructed by my agent or treatment provider. I agree that any test results may be used as evidence in any hearing for the violation of the conditions of my supervision and I waive any right to challenge the validity of such results.
11. I will comply with the Department's requirements for any electronic monitoring program which I am ordered to participate in by the Court, the Parole Board, the releasing authority, the hearing officer, or my agent, or as required by statute, all at my own expense.



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SEX OFFENDER MISSION STATEMENT

To provide an enhanced program for supervision of sex offenders that reduces the likelihood of future sexual victimization the Department will:

- ◆ Develop and impose special conditions that are specific to sex offenders
- ◆ Create new policies and modify existing policies which will provide guidance to field staff regarding the supervision of this population
- ◆ Enhance existing training and create new training focusing on sex offender supervision
- ◆ Effectively use electronic technology in the supervision of sex offenders (Radio Frequency Electronic Monitoring, Polygraphs, etc.)
- ◆ Identify effective treatment options
- ◆ Establish statewide partnerships with treatment providers
- ◆ Provide advanced training for Agents who will supervise sex offender caseloads
- ◆ Provide information to sex offenders prior to their release from prison to promote successful reentry into society
- ◆ Collect treatment information on sex offenders prior to their release to better assist with the reentry process
- ◆ Utilize a specialized risk assessment instrument
- ◆ Continue to use outside expert networking assistance and training



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South Carolina Profile of Sex Offenders and Their Victims

SEX OFFENDERS

- ◆ 7,624 on the SC Sex Offender Registry
- ◆ 1,310 active sex offenders under PPP supervision
 - ◆ 1,280 males; 30 females
 - ◆ 505 black; 794 white; 11 other
 - ◆ Average age = 37
 - ◆ Average Grade Completed = 11th

VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- ◆ Most are known or related to their attackers
- ◆ Most are children
- ◆ 2/3 of offenders convicted of sexual abuse nationwide offended against children and 72% of registered sex offenders in SC offended against children
- ◆ 90% of children under 12 who are sexually assaulted know their attackers
- ◆ 66% of adult victims know their attackers



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ENSURING EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION

AGENTS INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPERVISION BY:

- ◆ Encouraging and supporting the offender's participation and progress in treatment – learning offense patterns, triggers, coping techniques
- ◆ Encouraging positive change; supporting positive choices
- ◆ Correcting the offender's thinking errors; holding the offender accountable
- ◆ Encouraging compliance with conditions that are established as external controls while facilitating the development of the offender's internal controls

THREE COMPONENTS OF EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION:

- ◆ Formulating an individually-tailored case management plan
- ◆ Utilizing a range of sex offender-specific supervision strategies
- ◆ Conducting supervision within the context of a case management team approach



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These new protocols only apply to those offenders on active supervision for offenses that require sex offender registration, unless the court orders otherwise. If a lesser charge not requiring registration is negotiated, adjudicated, or recommended, then the new supervision protocols will need to be ordered by the court on the standard sentencing form. The following supervision protocols will be automatically ordered by the agent at the beginning of supervision.

SUPERVISION:

The offender will be interviewed by Department personnel after sentencing. The Agent will explain the Standard Sex Offender Conditions of Supervision to the sex offender, answer any questions, have the offender sign and date the conditions, and provide the offender with a copy.

The Agent will make an initial home visit within two weeks of receiving a new sex offender case.

The Agent will then administer the new Static 99 Risk Assessment within two weeks after receiving the case. The offender will be supervised at the **Sex Offender Intensive** (S.O. Intensive) level of supervision until the Static 99 is completed and the supervision level in the guidelines below can be applied.

If the sex offender's score on the Static 99 is six or higher (6 +), the offender will be supervised under the **Containment** level of supervision. These offenders will be supervised at the Containment level for a least one year and can be reduced to the S.O. Intensive level only with the approval of a supervisor. If reduced to the S. O. Intensive level of supervision, these offenders will remain there for one year and can be reduced to the S.O. High level only with the approval of a supervisor. The offender will also be required to pay Intensive supervision fees.

The Static 99 suggests that these sex offenders pose the greatest risk to the community; therefore, the Department subjects them to the most scrutiny. The offenders on the Containment level will be required to report monthly and the Agent will complete three home visits, one employment verification and one treatment provider contact per month. The sex offender will be placed on Electronic Monitoring (EM) for a minimum of six months.

If the sex offender's score on the Static 99 is two to five (2-5), the offender will be supervised under the **S. O. Intensive** level of supervision. These offenders will be supervised at this level for at least one year and can be reduced to the S.O. High level only with the approval of a supervisor. This entails the offender reporting monthly and the Agent completing two home visits, one employment verification and one treatment provider contact per month. The offender will also be required to pay Intensive supervision fees.

If the sex offender's score on the Static 99 is zero to one (0-1), the offender will be supervised under the **Sex Offender High** (S.O. High) level of supervision. These offenders will be supervised no lower than the S.O. High level for the duration of supervision. This entails the offender reporting monthly and the Agent completing one home visit, one employment verification and one treatment provider contact per month.



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TREATMENT:

All registered Sex offenders will be required to attend and complete treatment as directed by the Agent. The length of the treatment will be determined by the provider and the progress of the offender.

The Department is updating it’s Resource Directory as to treatment. It is noted that some counties do not have access to providers and the Department is exploring the possibility of contracting services statewide. Treatment is essential in this supervision plan and any failure to comply will be dealt with by the violation process which may include legal process being issued.

As a tool with treatment, polygraph examinations will be completed for those current sex offenders or new admissions who score 4 or higher on the Static 99. These examinations will provide a “full sexual history disclosure” and will assist with the treatment program. Subsequent polygraph examinations could be requested by the supervising Agent or the treatment ptovider as to ensure compliance with treatment and/or to test the truthfulness of the offender during treatment.

RE-ENTRY:

As a result of these new supervision protocols, all offenders serving an active portion of their sentence in the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) will receive an Offender Supervision Handbook prior to their release. The handbook will cover standard supervision conditions applicable to all offenders, as well as the new standard sex offender conditions. This handbook will be dispensed by the SCDC.

VIOLATIONS:

Any violation committed by a sex offender, except a purely financial violation, will be addressed as a **community safety violation** and will require a mandatory staffing with a supervisor. The Department has studied and recognizes that:

Seemingly unimportant decisions or violations committed by a sex offender must be immediately addressed as they occur throughout the course of supervision. These occurrences are choices sex offenders make that put them at risk to re-offend and/or maintain deviant thoughts and behaviors. These decisions or violations may, on its face, appear to have no relationship to lapse or relapse behavior. These decisions or violations, considered individually, may seem unimportant. However, when considered as part of a chain of events, the significance of such decisions in supporting the sex offender’s sexual deviance becomes apparent. At that time, the Department will most likely recommend a revocation.

Sex offenders that abscond supervision will be subject to an enhanced Sex Offender Fugitive Investigation process. This includes placing the offender in the National Crime Information Center(NCIC). The case information will also be forwarded to the Regional



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Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC) where the information will be accessed against an assortment of national data bases to possibly obtain the whereabouts of the absconded offender. Once this has been completed, the case will be assigned to a central office agent for further investigation.

ADDITIONAL SUPERVISION TOOLS:

- ◆ The Department will be testing surveillance equipment using “voice recognition” technology.
- ◆ The Department will be expanding its program of field testing for alcohol use by sex offenders.
- ◆ The Department will be identifying and using providers for polygraph examinations of sex offenders.
- ◆ The Department has received a Federal grant to purchase portable “ThinkPad” Notebook computers that will enable agents to access offender information while in the field.
- ◆ The Department will continue its Digital Imaging program by downloading all offender photographs on the Department’s Offender Information System and having additional digital camera equipment in each office for agents to use while in the field.
- ◆ The Department will continue its DNA Collection program and obtain samples from convicted sex offenders to provide to SLED.

ADDITIONAL SENTENCING OPTIONS:

Again, these new protocols only apply to those offenders on active supervision for offenses that require sex offender registration, unless the court orders otherwise. If a lesser charge not requiring registration is negotiated, adjudicated, or recommended, then the new supervision protocols will need to be ordered by the court on the standard sentencing form.

SUMMARY

SCDPPPS is committed to maintaining a sound and structured sex offender management program that will positively impact public safety and provide the offender with every opportunity to succeed. Through research and development, we have formulated a collaborative approach that is victim-centered and includes special conditions and sex offender specific treatment. Our clear and consistent policies include comprehensive monitoring of this offender population, with efforts placed on reducing recidivism. Reinforcement from our judicial and local law enforcement partners can strengthen and heighten our effort to uphold community safety.

